

FEB 21 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Brian J. Brown, Michael Davis, David Friesen, Timothy J. Ley and Sean P. Skubitz
Application No.:	09/197278
Filed:	November 20, 1998
For:	Improved Longitudinally Flexible Expandable Stent
Examiner:	Vy Q Bui
Group Art Unit:	3731

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2-6769-US01

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Vy Q Bui
FACSIMILE NO.: 571-273-8300
GROUP ART UNIT: 3731

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Following please find a 14 page Amendment in addition to this 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees. To the extent that any petition is required to consider this communication, please treat this as such a petition.

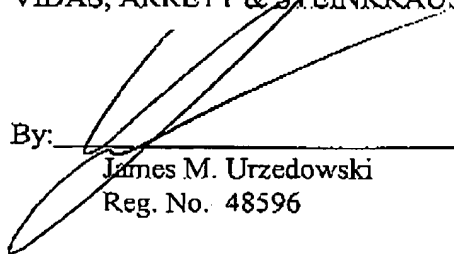
Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

Date:

2/21/06

By:


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 571-273-8300, on 2/21/2006.

Signature: Beth M. DeChene

Beth M. DeChene

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AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated October 19, 2005.

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicants hereby petition for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows: